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## Commentary: Quotes and observations from Furman programs and personalities

Furman University

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**Commentary:** Quotes and observations from Furman programs and personalities

“We believe this program will provide enriching educational experiences for our student fellows while also developing energy efficiency and environmental stewardship programs that can help build truly sustainable communities.”

— GEORGE BALDWIN, VICE PRESIDENT OF  
PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS FOUNDATION’S  
PARTNERS PROGRAM, ON A \$75,000 GRANT  
TO SUPPORT FELLOWSHIPS FOR STUDENTS  
AT FURMAN, DUKE AND VANDERBILT IN  
SUSTAINABILITY, RESEARCH AND SERVICE.

“This provides an opportunity for students to hear firsthand what companies are doing in their science work and product development. It ties into educating students on what chemistry and science have done in the real world with the business dimension added to it.”

— LON KNIGHT, CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT CHAIR,  
ON THE CHEMISTRY CORPORATE LUNCHEON, WHICH  
BRINGS TOGETHER STUDENTS, FACULTY AND  
COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES FOR NETWORKING.

“Kids need help. Kids need resources. Sometimes that help just may be someone showing that they care, somebody giving some insight, somebody giving some leadership, somebody to relate to, somebody you want to emulate. That’s a passion of mine, because I understand if a kid is labeled or has issues and he doesn’t get help, it could cost him his life.”

— SHAMMOND WILLIAMS, MEN’S ASSISTANT  
BASKETBALL COACH, IN A *GREENVILLE NEWS*  
ARTICLE. WILLIAMS, A GREENVILLE NATIVE AND  
FORMER PRO PLAYER, RUNS THE WILLIAMS CENTER  
FOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR AREA YOUTH.



“We hope the professors continue to challenge students with thoughts they don’t like, deadlines that loom too soon, and grades they’re convinced are too tough. We hope students will always appreciate the work of our custodians, dining hall workers, other support staff, and landscape and maintenance crews. . . . We hope they take advantage of study abroad opportunities, service projects, and cultural life programs to learn the world is bigger than Furman and bigger than each of us. And we hope they always relish the privilege of unapologetically yelling, ‘FU all the time’.”

— KATIE LOVE ’12, IN HER ADDRESS  
AT THE SPRING COMMENCEMENT.

“The passage of Title IX was not sufficient to ensure gender equity. Attitudes had to change, as well. Some were forced to embrace the principles of fairness by the courts; others did so as they observed their daughters being denied opportunities to participate. The broad array of educational and athletic opportunities available [today] for females is a testament to the many advocates who persisted in the pursuit of equal opportunities for girls and women.”

— BILL PIERCE, CHAIR OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND  
NCAA FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE,  
IN A *GREENVILLE NEWS* EDITORIAL.

“When you play at Furman, which is a top 20 Division I program, you’re going to learn what it is to have pressure and to deal with pressure and overcome it. You’re going to learn what it is to put in hard work and do extra things to make your team better.”

— ANTHONY ESQUIVEL ’03, WHO PLAYED SOCCER  
AS AN UNDERGRADUATE AND IS NOW AN ASSISTANT  
COACH AT FURMAN, IN A *GREENVILLE NEWS* ARTICLE.

“When students are selected for Bridges to a Brighter Future, they join a program of committed participants who unconditionally accept, support, encourage, trust, and love each other.”

— TOBI SWARTZ, DIRECTOR OF FURMAN’S BRIDGES  
PROGRAM, WHICH SUPPORTS HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENTS WHOSE POTENTIAL OUTDISTANCES THEIR  
CIRCUMSTANCES. BRIDGES WAS RECENTLY FEATURED  
IN A NATIONAL STUDY, “A BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS:  
CASE STUDIES OF SUCCESSFUL PRE-COLLEGE  
OUTREACH PROGRAMS.” VISIT  
[WWW.BRIDGESTOABRIGHTERFUTURE.ORG](http://WWW.BRIDGESTOABRIGHTERFUTURE.ORG).